

OCT 12 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
Department of the Army

ATTENTION: Policy and Coordinating Office

SUBJECT: The National Intelligence Digest

REFERENCE: A. Memorandum dated 16 September 1953, from
AC of Staff to DCI, Attention DD/I, same
subject.
B. Memorandum of 15 July 1953 to holders of
the National Intelligence Digest.

1. We have noted your memorandum with great interest, and particularly your suggestion that the Digest is "worthy of the combined efforts of all intelligence agencies."

2. While the Digest is issued by CIA and on its sole ultimate responsibility, about 60% of it is based squarely on NIE's and SE's, approved by the IAC. By our footnote system, we have indicated precisely the status of particular items in this respect, so that a reader who knows anything about the difference between coordinated and uncoordinated intelligence can know which he is getting. Our Introductory Note also noted the substantial reliance on estimates, but I think we can perhaps improve the wording to make the distinction clearer at the outset. We will do this in the next revision.

3. As to the parts of the Digest not based on coordinated estimates, we have not believed coordination was feasible or necessary for the following reasons:

a. The uncoordinated parts are in general the less important parts, with the exception of the Part I "Estimate of the World Situation." As you may know, we are at present engaged in coordinating the revision of this section, with the hope that it will have IAC approval.

b. The work of coordination would be extremely burdensome and time-consuming, both to you and to us. As you

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know the IAC has only reluctantly agreed to continue to coordinate appendices to estimates, a more important and less burdensome task.

c. In a number of cases where there are urgent developments, we put out revisions of the Digest. These would add to the coordination burden.

d. As a matter of editorial policy, we have endeavored, and will continue to endeavour, to avoid any expression of views known to be substantially at variance with those of any responsible IAC agency. As you know, our analysts — particularly in the current intelligence field — are in close and constant touch with your staff on an informal basis.

e. We have never intended the Digest as the last word — except as it embodies current estimates — and believe it can best serve as an introduction, rather than a full briefing paper. I should be surprised to learn that any policy-maker, at least at high level, treats it on any other basis.



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ROBERT AMORY, JR.
Deputy Director/Intelligence

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